

Proceeding #05-311

Date November 13, 2018

The Honorable Ajit V. Pai  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
455 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Southwest  
Washington, DC, 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

We write to express our concern about and disapproval of the proposals and tentative conclusions set forth in the FCC's September 25 Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in *Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992*, MB Docket 05- 311.

I have owned 2 businesses and been chairman for several local non-profits in Andover for the past 16 years.

My multifaceted experience of community television has opened my eyes to the full services I've grown to learn about and rely on for hearing uniquely community point of view as well as get my own messages on the air.

As chairman of Ironstone Farm, located in Andover, we worked closely with the television station, to get our message out to the community regarding therapeutic riding for children, which has grown to over 550 per week. No doubt in my mind that community television gave us visibility and a platform for our message for the citizens to know and understand a charity that operated literally in it's own back yard

As President for Andover's Rotary Club, we collaborated with the television station to bring our message out for live events, host informative interviews with town officials and local business leaders who had the ear of the community. They served both the citizens of the town and the businesses in the town that fueled the economy and enabled rapid responsive action to local issues.

As the owner of an integrative medical clinic, I hosted a cable show and was able to both entertain and educate the community that we serve about when and how to use medically necessary integrative medicine. This platform and the cooperation from the staff is unparalleled in my experience. Their willingness to produce high quality programming that is interesting and valuable to watch, as well as informative for all the local events and town schedules.

This local presence enables the residents of our Andover to watch uniquely local programming about their community and local events and issues of interest to them. And that was the intent of

the PEG provisions of the 1984 Cable Act – to enhance local voices, serve local community needs and interests, and strengthen our local democracy. By defining “franchise fee” in an overly broad fashion to include “in-kind” support, the FCC’s proposals will shift the fair balance between cable franchising authorities and cable operators and will force communities to choose between franchise fees and PEG channels, – something that was never the intent of the Act.

We appreciate your consideration and hope you will protect PEG channels in our community and others by choosing not to adopt many of the proposals in the Further Notice.

Sincerely,

David Sollars  
201 Coventry Lane  
North Andover, MA  
01845

CC: The Honorable Michael O’Rielly, Commissioner  
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner  
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner